



Giving Orphans in Iraq a Healthy Life



Photo: USAID/World Food Program

Mudafar Jabar, age 12, and his brother Mohammad, age 11, eat nutritious meals at an orphanage provided by USAID.

Mudafar Jabar, aged 12, and his brother Mohammad, age 11, have seen first hand the brutalities of life in impoverished Northern Iraq. Orphaned, the boys live with forty-three other children at Erbilss Orphan House. These orphanages, which provide schooling up to the age of 18, were established by Iraq's former government. The long-term survival of the orphanage, like that of the children who live there, depends on USAID food assistance provided through the World Food Program (WFP), established in 1997. As part of Iraq's Public Distribution System, USAID has contributed over \$420 million in commodities and cash disbursements through WFP during the past three years. Due to these efforts, WFP has helped cut chronic malnutrition among children in Northern Iraq, including those at the orphanages, from 18.3% to 11%. Since the program was implemented, Mudafar and Mohammad can now eat healthy meals on a regular basis.

Success Story

